



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 3 April 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
3 APRIL 1967

1. North Vietnam

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2. South Vietnam

Elections of village councils were held yesterday in about one third of the 1,000 constituencies scheduled to elect councils this month. According to early reports, the voting was carried on without serious interference by the Viet Cong.

[redacted] voter turnout was heavy--about 80 percent of the registered electorate. This is comparable to that recorded during the election of delegates for the Constituent Assembly last September.

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3. Soviet Union

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4. Communist China

Signs that Liu Shao-chi is about to be formally brought down may well mean that the cultural revolution is entering an advanced stage. Liu--number two man in the party until last August and still chief of state--was the target of a giant all-day rally in Peking yesterday.

This came immediately after People's Daily demanded that the "handful of counterrevolutionary revisionists" must be overthrown and that the "top party person in authority taking the capitalist road"--an unmistakable reference to Liu--must be removed. This could come tomorrow when the next "down with Liu" rally is scheduled.

5. Japan

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6. Cuba

Castro's running feud with the pro-Moscow Communist parties of Latin America is entering the stage of public recriminations. The dispute revolves around whether to use "armed struggle" tactics in Latin America; Castro says that guerrilla warfare is a must, but the pro-Moscow parties favor more peaceful "popular front" maneuvers.

The Brazilian Communist Party has come out with a strong attack against Castro for working at cross purposes with the other parties. The Chilean Communists and others are likely to follow suit.

The Soviets are also increasingly upset. Their efforts to establish diplomatic relations with Venezuela and Colombia have been set back by the recent upsurge in operations by pro-Castro guerrillas in both countries.

7. Chile

President Frei's Christian Democrats were badly mauled in municipal elections yesterday.

this was mainly a protest against Frei's "high-handed and holier than thou" application of his economic and social reforms, and his unwillingness to involve himself in the normal give and take of Chilean politics.

Frei will go to the summit in a weakened position.

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